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Min-Chih Hsuan

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J C PATENTS, INC.
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IRVINE, CA 92618

EXAMINER

SHAW, YIN CHEN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2139

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/09/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/666,802		HSUAN, MIN-CHIH	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Yin-Chen Shaw		2139	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-28, 30-41, 43 and 45-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-28, 30-41, 43, and 45-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This written action is responding to the amendment dated on 03/17/2008.
2. Claims 1-2, 19, 26-27, 34, and 41 have been amended. Claims 4, 29, 42, 44, are canceled. All other claims are as original
3. Claims 1-3, 5-28, 30-41, 43, and 45-48 have been submitted for examination.
4. Claims 1-3, 5-28, 30-41, 43, and 45-48 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-2, 5-7, 9-27, 30-32, 34-41, and 45-47 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Padole et al. (U.S. Patent 6,993,664) in view of Hughes et al. (U.S. Pub. 2004/0059938).

a. Referring to Claims 1 and 26:

As per Claim 1, Padole et al. disclose a system for detecting an illegal loading of a software with a software serial number and executing the software thereafter, the system comprising:

a personal identity circuit for holding a software serial number of a software and generating an inspection code in installing the software **[(lines 21-23, Col. 2; lines 59-60, Col. 4 from Padole et al.)]**; and

a communication control interface having a communication equipment serial number, the communication control interface is provided for connecting the personal identity circuit with a new product registration center **[(lines 27-32, Col. 2 and lines 43-60, Col. 8 from Padole et al.)]**;

wherein the first value indicates the installed software is in a legal user state and the second value indicates the installed software is in an illegal user state and wherein the software automatically checks the inspection code before executing the software, when the inspection code is in a legal user state, executing of the software permitted, when the inspection code is in an illegal user state, executing of the software is terminated immediately **[(lines 41-46, Col. 9; lines 57-67, Col. 5; lines 1-7 and 64-67, Col. 6; lines 1-20, Col. 7 from Padole et al.)]**.

Padole et al. do not expressly disclose the remaining limitations of the claim. However, Hughes et al. disclose the inspection code with a first value corresponding to a software when the software is installed in the system at the first time and a software serial number of the software is received by the personal identity circuit **[(lines 1-7 of [0038]; lines 1-10 of [0033]; lines 6-10 of [0035]; Fig. 1 from Hughes et al.)]** if the

inspection code corresponding to the software is not generated, the execution of the software is terminated **[(lines 1-10 of [0033]; lines 6-9 of [0042]; lines 1-8 of [0046]; Fig. 4)]** and wherein the new product registration center receives the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number and compares the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number with datasets in a database in the new product registration center, wherein when the software serial number is found within one of the datasets but a communication equipment serial number in the one of the datasets differs from the received communication equipment serial number, the inspection code is reset to a second value **[(lines 1-20 of [0054]; lines 1-5 of [0055]; lines 1-11 of [0040] from Hughes et al.)]**.

Padole et al. and Hughes et al. are analogous art because they are from similar technology relating to software distribution and licensing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify Padole et al. with Hughes et al. since one would have been motivated to provide a system for enabling enforcement of written software licensing terms for a software product for use with a computer having a set of hardware components (lines 2-4 of [0014] from Hughes et al.).

As per Claim 26, it encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 1. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 1.

b. Referring to Claims 2, 27:

As per Claim 2, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 1, wherein when both of the received software serial number and the received communication equipment serial number are not found among the datasets, the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number are written down as a new dataset in the database and then the inspection code is reset to the legal user state **[(lines 1-15 of [0054] from Hughes) and (lines 57-67, Col. 5; lines 1-7, Col. 6 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 27, the rejection of Claim 26 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 27 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 2. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 2.

c. Referring to Claims 5, 30, and 45:

As per Claim 5, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 1, wherein the communication control interface comprises a network interface card **[(lines 57-60, Col. 8 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 30, the rejection of Claim 26 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 30 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 5. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 5.

As per Claim 45, the rejection of Claim 41 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 45 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 5. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 5.

d. Referring to Claims 6, 31, and 46:

As per Claim 6, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 1, wherein the communication control interface comprises a wireless communication network **[(lines 50-53, Col. 7 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 31, the rejection of Claim 26 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 31 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 6. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 6.

As per Claim 46, the rejection of Claim 41 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 46 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 6. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 6.

e. Referring to Claims 7, 32, and 47:

As per Claim 7, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 1, wherein the communication control interface comprises a global positioning system **[(lines 50-53, Col. 7 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 32, the rejection of Claim 26 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 32 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 7. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 7.

As per Claim 47, the rejection of Claim 41 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 47 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 7. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 7.

f. Referring to Claim 9:

As per Claim 9, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 1, wherein the personal identity circuit further comprises:

a microprocessor having a memory unit for generating the inspection code when installing the software and a non-volatile memory unit coupled to the microprocessor for holding the inspection code **[(lines 21-23, Col. 2; lines 1-5 and 59-60, Col. 4; Figs. 1 and 2 from Padole et al.)]**; and

a media access controller coupled to the non-volatile memory unit and the communication control interface for transmitting the inspection code to the new product registration center via the communication control

interface **[(lines 54-63, Col. 6; lines 1-6, Col. 9; Figs. 1 and 2 from Padole et al.)]**.

g. Referring to Claim 10:

As per Claim 10, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 9, wherein the memory unit comprises an erasable programmable read-only-memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

h. Referring to Claim 11:

As per Claim 11, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 9, wherein the memory unit comprises an electrically erasable programmable read-only-memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

i. Referring to Claim 12:

As per Claim 12, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 9, wherein the memory unit comprises a flash memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

j. Referring to Claim 13:

As per Claim 13, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 9, wherein the memory unit comprises a static random access memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

k. Referring to Claim 14:

As per Claim 14, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 9, wherein the memory unit comprises a dynamic random access memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

l. Referring to Claim 15:

As per Claim 15, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 9, wherein the non-volatile memory unit comprises an erasable programmable read-only-memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

m. Referring to Claim 16:

As per Claim 16, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 9, wherein the non-volatile memory unit comprises an electrically erasable read-only-memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

n. Referring to Claim 17:

As per Claim 17, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 9, wherein the non-volatile memory comprises a flash memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

o. Referring to Claim 18:

As per Claim 18, the rejection of Claim 1 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 18 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 9. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 9.

p. Referring to Claims 19 and 34:

As per Claim 19, Padole et al. disclose a chip in a system for detecting an illegal loading of a software with a software serial number and executing the software thereafter, the chip comprising:

a microprocessor for generating an inspection code when installing a software having a software serial number and a non-volatile memory unit

coupled to the microprocessor for holding the inspection code **[(lines 21-23, Col. 2; lines 1-5 and 59-60, Col. 4; Figs. 1 and 2 from Padole et al.)]**;

a media access controller coupled to the non-volatile memory unit and a communication control interface for transmitting the software serial number of the software and a communication equipment serial number to a new product registration center via the communication control interface such that the new product registration center resets the inspection code according to the received software serial number and the communication equipment serial number, wherein the software automatically checks the inspection code before executing the software, when the inspection code is in a legal user state, executing of the software is permitted, when the inspection code is in an illegal user state, executing of the software is terminated immediately **[(lines 61-67, Col. 8 and lines 1-6 and 41-46, Col. 9; lines 57-67, Col. 5; lines 1-7, Col. 6; Figs. 1 and 2 from Padole et al.)]**;

wherein the first value indicates the installed software is in a legal user state and the second value indicates the installed software is in an illegal user state and wherein the software automatically checks the inspection code before executing the software, when the inspection code is in a legal user state, executing of the software permitted, when the inspection code is in an illegal user state, executing of the software is

terminated immediately **[(lines 41-46, Col. 9; lines 57-67, Col. 5; lines 1-7 and 64-67, Col. 6; lines 1-20, Col. 7 from Padole et al.)]**.

Padole et al. do not expressly disclose the remaining limitations of the claim. However, Hughes et al. disclose the inspection code with a first value corresponding to a software when the software is installed in the system at the first time and a software serial number of the software is received by the personal identity circuit **[(lines 1-7 of [0038]; lines 1-10 of [0033]; lines 6-10 of [0035]; Fig. 1 from Hughes et al.)]** if the inspection code corresponding to the software is not generated, the execution of the software is terminated **[(lines 1-10 of [0033]; lines 6-9 of [0042]; lines 1-8 of [0046]; Fig. 4)]** and wherein the new product registration center receives the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number and compares the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number with datasets in a database in the new product registration center, wherein when the software serial number is found within one of the datasets but a communication equipment serial number in the one of the datasets differs from the received communication equipment serial number, the inspection code is reset to a second value **[(lines 1-20 of [0054]; lines 1-5 of [0055]; lines 1-11 of [0040] from Hughes et al.)]**.

Padole et al. and Hughes et al. are analogous art because they are from similar technology relating to software distribution and licensing. It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify Padole et al. with Hughes et al. since one would have been motivated to provide a system for enabling enforcement of written software licensing terms for a software product for use with a computer having a set of hardware components (lines 2-4 of [0014] from Hughes et al.).

As per Claim 34, it encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 19. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 19.

q. Referring to Claims 20 and 35:

As per Claim 20, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the chip of claim 19, wherein the communication control interface comprises a network interface card **[(lines 57-60, Col. 8 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 35, the rejection of Claim 34 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 35 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 20. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 20.

r. Referring to Claims 21 and 36:

As per Claim 21, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the chip of claim 19, wherein the-communication control interface comprises a

wireless communication network **[(lines 50-53, Col. 7 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 36, the rejection of Claim 34 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 36 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 21. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 21.

s. Referring to Claims 22 and 37:

As per Claim 22, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the chip of claim 19, wherein the communication control interface comprises a global positioning system **[(lines 50-53, Col. 7 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 37, the rejection of Claim 34 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 37 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 22. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 22.

t. Referring to Claims 23 and 38:

As per Claim 23, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the chip of claim 19, wherein the non-volatile memory unit comprises an erasable programmable read-only-memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 38, the rejection of Claim 34 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 38 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 23. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 23.

u. Referring to Claims 24 and 39:

As per Claim 24, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the chip of claim 19, wherein the non-volatile memory unit comprises an electrically erasable programmable read-only-memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 39, the rejection of Claim 34 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 39 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 24. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 24.

v. Referring to Claims 25 and 40:

As per Claim 25, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the chip of claim 19, wherein the non-volatile memory unit comprises a flash memory **[(Fig. 1 from Padole et al.)]**.

As per Claim 40, the rejection of Claim 34 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 40 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 25. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 25.

w. Referring to Claim 41:

As per Claim 41, Padole et al. disclose a software registration center linked to a hardware system for detecting an illegal loading of a software with a software serial number into a computer and executing the software thereafter, wherein the software registration center has a database with a plurality of datasets **[(lines 32-38, Col. 9 from Padole et al.)]**, when the software registration center receives the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number, the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number are compared with the datasets **[(lines 27-32, Col. 2 and lines 43-60, Col. 8 from Padole et al.)]**;

wherein the first value indicates the installed software is in a legal user state and the second value indicates the installed software is in an illegal user state and wherein before the computer is able to execute the software, the software automatically checks the inspection code, when the inspection code is in a legal user state, executing of the software is permitted, when the inspection code is in an illegal user state, executing of the software is terminated immediately **[(lines 41-46, Col. 9; lines 57-67, Col. 5; lines 1-7, Col. 6; lines 1-20, Col. 7 from Padole et al.)]**.

Padole et al. do not expressly disclose the remaining limitations of the claim. However, Hughes et al. disclose wherein the new product registration center receives the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number and compares the software

serial number and the communication equipment serial number with datasets in a database in the new product registration center, wherein when the software serial number is found within one of the datasets but a communication equipment serial number in the one of the datasets differs from the received communication equipment serial number, the inspection code is reset to an second value **[(lines 1-20 of [0054]; lines 1-5 of [0055]; lines 1-11 of [0040] from Hughes et al.)]**.

Padole et al. and Hughes et al. are analogous art because they are from similar technology relating to software distribution and licensing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify Padole et al. with Hughes et al. since one would have been motivated to provide a system for enabling enforcement of written software licensing terms for a software product for use with a computer having a set of hardware components (lines 2-4 of [0014] from Hughes et al.).

6. Claims 3, 8, 28, 33, 43, and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Padole et al. (U.S. Patent 6,993,664) and Hughes et al. (U.S. Pub. 2004/0059938) and further in view of Nash (U.S. Patent 6,449,645).

- a. Referring to Claims 3, 28, and 43:

As per Claim 3, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of Claim 2. Padole et al. and Hughes et al. further disclose wherein after

the new product registration center reset the inspection code to the legal user state according to the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number as in Claim 1. Padole et al. and Hughes et al. do not expressly disclose the software manufacture system connected to a software manufacturer system for reporting a software registration to the software manufacturer system. However, Nash discloses the software (manufacturing) system is informed of the license information based on the monitoring process by the computer routines **[(lines 53-54, Col. 5 from Nash)]**. Padole et al., Hughes et al., and Nash are analogous art because they are from similar technology relating to software distribution and licensing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify Padole et al. and Hughes et al. with Nash since one would have been motivated to provide a method for monitoring whether software or other digitized information has been copied (lines 15-17, Col. 2 from Nash).

As per Claim 28, the rejection of Claim 26 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 28 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 3. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 3.

As per Claim 43, the rejection of Claim 41 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 43 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 3. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 3.

b. Referring to Claims 8, 33, and 48:

As per Claim 8, Padole et al. and Hughes et al. disclose the system of claim 1. Padole et al. and Hughes et al. further disclose wherein after the new product registration center reset the inspection code to the legal user state according to the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number as in Claim 1. Padole et al. and Hughes et al. do not expressly disclose the software manufacture system and connected to a software manufacturer system for reporting a software registration to the software manufacturer system. However, Nash discloses the software (manufacturing) system is informed of the license information based on the monitoring process by the computer routines **[(lines 53-54, Col. 5 from Nash)]**. Padole et al., Hughes et al., and Nash are analogous art because they are from similar technology relating to software distribution and licensing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to modify Padole et al. and Hughes et al. with Nash since one would have been motivated to provide a method for monitoring whether software or other digitized information has been copied (lines 15-17, Col. 2 from Nash).

As per Claim 33, the rejection of Claim 26 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 33 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 8. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 8.

As per Claim 48, the rejection of Claim 41 is incorporated. In addition, Claim 48 encompasses limitations that are similar to those of Claim 8. Therefore, it rejected with the same rationale as of Claim 8.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's amendments, filed on Mar. 17, 2008, have Claims 1-2, 19, 26-27, 34, and 41 have been amended and Claims 4, 29, 42, and 44 canceled. Among these amended claims, Claims 1, 19, 26, 34, and 41 are independent claims and necessitates a new ground of rejection.

8. Applicant's arguments, filed on Mar. 17, 2008, are moot in view of the new ground of rejection with the newly found reference by Hughes et al. (U.S. Pub. 2004/0059938). Please refer to the rejections above.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
 - a. Moore et al. (U.S. Patent 6,067,622) disclose a software-based system and method for restricting unlicensed software duplication and installation. The invention features a software security system using a remove function for restricting unauthorized duplication and installation of an application program onto one or more data processing systems. The software security system includes an installation program and an application program. The application program as written is "un-runnable" owing to nonsense instruction sets dispersed throughout the actual programming instructions of the application program. An installation program routine comprises software instruction sets for removing the nonsense instruction sets in the application program. The software security system executes an instruction set to delete the nonsense instruction sets upon installation of the application program into one or more data processing systems thereby allowing application program to be executed once loaded onto the

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system(s), upon correspondence between an internal run key and an execution-time run key.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yin-Chen Shaw whose telephone number is 571-272-8593. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:15 to 4:15 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on 571-272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

YCS

Jun. 02, 2008

/Kristine Kincaid/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2139

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